Jersey Voleaners

HOME STUDIES OF RATTLERS.

UNEXPECTED THINGS DONE BY THE SNAKES AT TIMES.

One That Made Friends With a Pove Was Lieked by a Hen and Was Seared by a Hat It's Queer How They Change Their Clothes-This is a Tale Told y a Truthful Wayside Showman.

HESTER, N. Y., June 14 .- "It's simply a snakes, lactics and gentlemen. A germine wild rattlesnakes, with all tattles on, and their poison fangs all

simply a pair of wild rattlesnakes, and by myself. They were the first eason, and they are genuine. Now's last and only chance to see 'em for also this next train."

was a decent-looking man, with one as sleeve pinned to the breast of his and his only hand resting on a wooden about two feet wide and three feet high one side of the box, near the top, a square spout projected.

as three inches or so wide by six or eight inches long. It pointed upward at agle of 45 degrees and was closed by a schare of glass set in it.

The box was perforated at the sides near the bottom, by a triangle of halfaugur holes. The man and his box near the railroad station.

curious and promiseuous crowd of rural folk surrounded them, chiefly juvenile. scened inclined, chiefly on account ancial inability, to seize the oppory to see this pair of genuine wild rattlespaces Yet the man waved his hand as If to keep back the rush, and said mildly,

on't crowd, ladies and gentlemen Den't growd, I beg of you! Fall in line, orderly and patiently. The sight will cost you but five cents a head, and there's time etaugh for all. So don't crowd, please!" citizen of inquiring bent pushed his ray through the crowd, dropped a nickel In the man's hand and put his eye to the glass at the end of the square spout. The

eight he saw was startling. Two immense rattlesnakes were coiled on the bottom of the box. They seemed to be at least six feet long and as big around

as a man's arm. The inquiring citizen gazed intently at the brilliant markings of the snakes. And he must have gazed over long, for the proprietor of the box and its contents addressed the crowd and said:

*Ladies and gentlemen, it costs only ave cents a look to see this pair of genuine wild rattlesnakes, but I make special terms by the hour."

Then the citizen unglued his eye from the glass in the spout. The owner of the show, it seemed to him, showed signs of thirst. The citizen suggested to him that If he could consistently drop the curtain at that point in the entertainment and call it an act he would have no hesitancy whatever in investing the price of two admissions in beer.

All right," said the showman. "But I'll have to ask you to make it three. Hey, Jimmy!

A sunburned young man with a pleased look on his face came out of the crowd. The one-armed man took hold of a strap on one side of the box and the sunburned young man seized one on the opposite

Then the citizen, the two men and the box adjourned to a place where the citizen five years i often saw could make his proposition good. They the dove and the rattler both sound asleep tocould make his proposition good. They got there. The citizen had read the signs The showman was thirsty. So gether.

as Jimmy.
"Yes," said the one-armed man. "I snake and someti was Jimmy think I know a few things about rattle-snakes. A few I ought to know. I've snakes a few I ought to know. I've snake was killit lived next door neighbor to 'em for better than forty years.

"They're friends of mine, rattlesnakes and other things whenever he wanted 'em, as we put 'em in to him.

"One day the down

if he was within reach of me. I've got its head through one one at home Susquehanna county, Pa., west side of Ararat

Mountain that I've had for eleven years.

"I raised him, and think the world of him. Put he's got his fangs in, and I know he'd just as leave sock 'em into me as into anything else. Yes, sir's us about rattlesnakes

T've found out that rettlesnakes change their skin twice a year in July and Septemier and that it Septemier and that if they can't get to water while they're sheeding the skin, it won't come off all in one riece, but in ratches. But I've never cought on to just how they get the skin off. "I've gene to bed at night and that snake of mine worldn't show any more this t show any more of peeling himself if he'd been a stick and But rext morn-his old clothes would

ising in one corner of tage, and he would be

"The first ten months I had that rattle-The first ten monlie I had that rattle-snake of mine he never ate a mouthful or drank a drop of anything. A rattlesnake has been known to remain fourteen months in captivity without eating or drinking, and then all of a sucken begin to find his appetite. He realizes that he ought to take a little something now and then for

by a rattlesnake, without being treated for the poison, and —
"Except hogs, Pop," interjected the sunburned young man. "Oh, yes! Except hogs! replied the showman. "Lord, yes! Hogs! Hogs don't mind rattlesnakes any more than I mind beerand hogs froth to the mouth considerable, but not like this beer does.

"They delight in getting in among rattlesnakes, hogs do, and then the snakes remember all of a sudden that they've got urgent business in other parts. And they go. his stomach's sake, even if it wasn't anything more than water."

The snake man paused. By and by he said, yes, he didn't mind if he did, only he wished they wouldn't put so much froth

on it.
"When I put that snake in his cage eleven years ago," the one-armed resumed, "I put a young dove in with him. Now there isn't anything I can tell you about that a rattlesnake won't kill and eat if he's hungry, and "Except bats, Pop," interrupted the

DON'T CROWD, I BEG OF YOU

sunburned young man.

who had also shown some antipathy to froth. "Oh, yes! Except bats!"

the

assented

assented the showman.

"I put a bat in the cage of
that snake of mine once,
and I thought he'd go
crazy. Not the bat. The

snake.
"He coiled himself up in

one corner of his cage, the snake did, and actu-ally hid his head. All he'd

do would be to rattle, was afraid the bat wou scare the snake to deat so I took it out of the cage.

"Well, I put that on the snake's cage, that dove hived with

"Sometimes

Except bats!"

showman.

others twice their size.

"That snake of mine up home is only coming It years old, and he's got fifteen big rattles and a button. It is a very rare than four feet long any-where in our part of the country." The citizen ventured

they go.

"Speaking of the age of rattlesnakes, if any one tells you that a rattler's age maybe told by the number of his rattles.

don't you believe it. I've known snakes two feet long to have more rattles than

suggest that the two genwild rattlesnakes from Pennsylvania mountains which the gentleman with the garruious tongue and one arm had in his box were certainly more than six feet

"Well, the fact is," said the showman, looking at Jimmy of the tanned face, They're genuine, box isn't just what it seems

"When you look into that spout you don't see the snakes at all. You see their reflection in a glass that enlarges them just twice their size. They are plumb 3 feet 6 inches long, those snakes are, and it is a fact that they're genuine, with their and it is a fact that they're genuine, with their rattles all on, and poison fangs in, and that I caught them myself this past spring on the Pennsylvania moun-tains. That sounds like the train for York. the train for It was the train for York," and the one-armed



OTHER FELLOWS FUN. He Doesn't Appreciate It.

If imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, then the currency of Uncle Sam has a coninual blush coming. Birmingham News.

A Question of Color

There seems to be an impression abroad New York city among a certain class of tizens," remarked the observer of event and things, "that any law which prevents a person from painting the town red on Sun-

day is a blue law." - Yonkers Statesman. The Trouble Mrs. Jones-1 always think twice before Mr Jones (sighing) Exactly, Maria bu

on're such a quick thinker! Puck. Hoot, Mon! and He Wise

By its persistency of face repose, the ow gets a great reputation for wisdom. But whoever heard of an owl doing a wise thing? Moral: If the conversation is too deep for you, lock owlish and hoot occasionally Washington Post.

Cossible.
Uncle Stephen Sarie, here's a piece 'hou how they're tellegraffin' 'thout wires. By links' I woodent be 'sprized to hear next thet they're sendin' letters 'thout postige stamps. Julge.

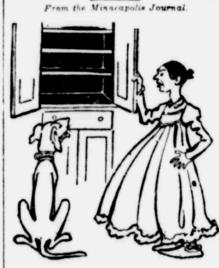
True. Wife How could you give that cook a recommend after she drank up all your best Husband-I merely said that she had a

great deal that was good in her -Life His Weakness.

Albert Why, don't you recollect that girl? 'hat's the girl you used to rave over last immer-call her a "poem" and all that. Edward-By Jove! So it is! I never could ommit a "poem" to memory.—Harper's

MODERN MOTHER GOOSE.

Bazar.



Old Mother Hubbard She went to the cuphoard To get her Poor Dog a bone But a Strike was on there, And the Cupboard was bare,



Mynheer Knickerbocker He went to the locker To get his poor Cook Stove some coal But he started in fright; There was no anthracite,

manily in his chair. "I know I'm right," said the Bishop, with some asperity. I've been all over the island and I've travelled through the Isthmus. I know whereof I speak. The Porto Rican climate is the same. The soil is the ame. The flora is the same. The standard of intelligence among the working classes is as high. Why shouldn't they be as good?

The man named Brown sighed and crossed

some more and crossed his legs the other "Um-m." drawled the host. "In that

case, then, the man who patronizes the Porto Rican product is equally vain as compared to the consumer, if I may use the term, of the New York article. The the term, of the New York article. The canvas imitation, which is almost as—
At this point the man named Brown could stand it no longer. He jumped to his feet and announced right then and there that he had never worn a Panama panama, a Porto Rican panama or a New York city panama; moreover, that he had no desire to wear all or any of them, and that if he could help it he'd never wear one of them. He arose and strutted defantly into the other room where the members of the weaker sex were discussing the probable the weaker sex were discussing the probable effect of the cessation of hostilities in South Africa upon British commerce.

Ping-Pong.



She (petulantly) There! That is the fifth ne the ball has rolled under the buffet! He (philosophically) I am not surprised when one considers that they are made from the same composition as collar buttons

SMALL DELIGHTS OF OFFICE Experience of a Man Who Has Just Learned What a Pull Is Worth.

"I have become reconciled to the situa said a man who was recently ap pointed to his first office. member I grumbled a good deal because the pay was light and the work heavy, but it is all right now, for I have learned by actual experience that the influence

is great. "When I walk along the streets policemen touch their hats to me. If there is a jam at any of the crossings and a cop sees me coming he opens the way at once, and I go through as easily as King Edward will go through the crowds at the coming coronation

"If I wanted to I could cover myself all over with badges. I have already got a building inspector's badge and a fire badge. Now I am thinking of getting a policeman's badge, a Coroner's badge and a corporation inspector's tadge, so as to be ready for all emergencies, from

a killing up to a celebration. *The first gas bill I received after taking office was for \$2.50. Usually it was \$7.80 or thereabouts. The next month it was \$1.80, and I talked it over with my wife, who said that it must be because of my

"I told her I hadn't any influence, but she wisely said that the gas companies did not know that, and that any corporation that was opening streets was not making any enemies of public servants. The next month the bill was \$1.40, and I burned nore gas that month than I ever had before in my life. I burned it on principle, and for the purpose of making discoveries.

Now I am satisfied that my wife was right along the line of march.

This was another sign that my wife was right, and when we talked it over she expressed the hope that if I hung on to my job for another year or so I would

have these corporations sending me checks for the honor of permitting them to supply me with the necessities of life.

In my neighborhood, there is a market covered with signs declaring that under no circumstances will anybody get credit. Very shortly after my name appeared in the paper as a public official it was clearly indicated that I could get as much erecfit as I wanted
*Indeed, my wife developed a great

deal of determination in forcing money upon the cierks in this store. It was the same in all the other stores, while the highest ambition of the man who keeps the ner saloon seemed to be to fil me with intoxicants, without cost. "The janitor of my house has long been a terror to all of the tenants. Not only would he fail to make any repairs or oblige the tenants in any way, but he sometimes intimated that it would not take much for

him to throw the offending tenant down-Now he almost lives in my flat, and is

Now he almost lives in my flat, and is either tinkering with the plumbing or else hammering away at the electric bells all the time. He even asks me if there is not something he can do for me.

On a rare occasion when I could afford a carriage the liveryman would bring the bill around himself on the first of each month and stay until he got his money. Now it is almost impossible to drag a bill out of his office. The only thing he wants is a few contracts with the city, and he

the solution of the question in the slowly sing smoke.

The little man named Brown shifted unsaly in his chair.

"I know I'm right," said the Bishop, sith some asperity. I've been all over the sland and I've travelled through the Isthman. I know whereaf I speak. The Portonican climate is the same. The soil is the Adirondacks.

Adirondacks.
"Of course theatres are easy. My wife has gone to the matines so frequently that about noon on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

she instinctively prepares to go out.

"As it is I am having a good time, and have so far kept pretty well out of temptation. If I pleased I could go to a theatre, an opening, a picnic, a dinner or a dance every night in the year, or I could travel free of cost on any railroad or stempheat running.



"I have been asking myself all the while whether it is on account of the umbrella or my company that I may accompany you." 'It is neither. It is on account of my new

> Close to the Limit. From the Philadelphia Times

A conductor on one of the Reading "locals" was handed a ticket for Wayne Junction by a lady who boarded his train the other day in the company of a bright-looking little girl. He looked at the child and then asked for another ticket
"I've never had to pay for her before,"
was the nother's reply
"How old is he?" asked the conductor.

Five years

Why, mamma: I'm 6" protested the child

She's she's nearly 6, hurriedly explained the mother That is, she's just going on 6.

The conductor looked at the mother for a second, and then, as he turned away, said:

"Well, madain, if I were you, I'd buy a ticket for her on the return trip. She's likely to be all of 6 by then."

From the Boston Herald.



Newriche-Mere words can't express my Miss Cutting Try figures, then

TOLD BY THE OLD CIRCUS MAN. Great Doings When the Greatest of All Glants Walked on Stilts.

"Oh, yes," said the old circus man, "we tried the great giant on stilts. As a matter of fact, his stilt walking was one of the greatest things he did, but for all that he id it only one season, on account of the risk to the giant involved in it.

"Of course, the stilt business was an outdoor act; and, as far as that goes, there wasn't always room for it even there; that is where we wanted to give it. The giant's stilt walking was commonly done in our circus parade before the beginning of the show; the giant marching at the head of

*I own a little place away up in The Bronx that has always kept me poor. The water bills that came in every quarter used to run from \$7 to \$12. In April the bill was walking in the parade, over a runaway along the line of march, a pair of hosses. along the line of march, a pair of hosses hooked to a farm wagon. This farmer had got his team, as plenty more had for that matter, hauled up at the side of the street to see the parade go by, and the horses were all right, and they'd ha' stayed all right, if it hadn't just so happened that the steam calliope man started up a tune on the calliope just as he come abreast of

> "That made all the horses around there cavort more or less, but it seemed to throw those two old plough nags plumb off their balance; and before you could think they were off on the dead jump along the street toward the head of the line, with the old farmer sawing on em as hard as be could, but without any sort of effect; and away they went, two wild horses, with a farm wagen swinging and bothing around be-hind them and occupying preity much the whole road, bearing straight down on the groot giant walking about there on his the great giant walking ahead there on his

stilts.

"Did the giant get lost in this excitement? Not for a minute. Just one look back when he heard the ciatter and what

do you suppose he did?

"Why, he didn't even try to get out of the way. He just spread his feet, or rather, his stilts apart, so that the foot of one was in the gutter on one side of the street, and the foot of the other in the gutter on the other, and let the runaway team go under

him between them!
But slick and easy as the great giant had come out of this danger the old man was all wrought up over what might have happened from it; and he said right then hat one more straw and we'd cut out the still not for good. Funny, but we got that straw the very next day. 'In this town it was clear sailing for

passable for him. But with only this one impediment we thought we'd let him go it, he could step aroun't that.

"He came along down that street towering up on his stilts to the amazement, as usual, of all beholders, till he came to this place where he had to turn out.

usual, of all behohiers, till he came to this place where he had to turn out.

There was here at this point a broad stretch of brick-paved sidewalk, this being in front of the town hall. As he stepped up on that brick sidewalk one of his stills slipped on the bricks—and the first thing you know, by gravy, there was the glant with his stills sliding around on that smooth pavement and he weaving around up there in the air making a desperate effort to recover himself.

"It all came in a minute, but there he was

"It all came in a minute, but there he was now, failing apparently, and heaven only knew what harm he'd do himself when he went down. But the great giant didn't go down, or not in a way to hurt himself.

"This town hall was a kind of an old-fashioned. Colonial port of a building, with a balustrade along the front of the roof just back of the eaves; and now whea the stilts had slid and he found he couldn't recover himself, the giant threw the stilts away from him and made a jump for the top rail of that balustrade along the edge of the roof.

"He intended to hang by that for a minute and then drop to the ground, as a boy

and then drop to the ground, as a boy would drop from a fence; and in fact that drop from the railing along the roof of this building would have been just about drop from the railing along the roof of this building would have been just about the same thing for the giant as the boy's dropping from a fence would be for him.

"Well, sir, he landed with his hands on the railing all right, and himself hanging down the front of the building and was just about to let go when the railing gave way under his weight—it was old and rotten and punky—and the first thing you know the giant dropped with that halustrade coming a-toppling down over his head after him.

"But the giant landed square and true on his feet, quite unharmed; that rotten old wooden railing clearing him all right and going to smash on the pavement six or eight feet behind him.

"One of the stilts had gone through a window of the town hall and the other had killed a horse; but we were grateful they hadn't either of them killed some human being; and with the giant unhurt, and the entire damage to the town hall not more than \$75, or a \$100 at the outside, we felt that we could afford to feel pretty well satisfied.

"Put the old man said, no more fooling."

satisfied.

"But the old man said, no more fooling with the glant on stilts; it might be a great act and all that, and drew the people, but we couldn't afford to take any risk at all with the great giant. And so that ended with the great giant. And so the up the great giant's stilt walking.

ATHLETIC CLUB AMENITIES. An "Accident" in a Match at Billiards and the Rejoinder.

They had gone into the billiard room secause it had a southern breeze and was likely to be cool, whatever the rest of the club might be. They had found the room as comfortable as they expected and they were taking their after-dinner coffee there. "It was in this very room," one of the

men said, "that I saw a fellow meet with one of the greatest snubs that I ever knew of; but it did not feaze him. "He was rich and conspicuous socially. but was known above all as the best of gentlemen athletes. He was a fine tennis

player years ago and as a boy got into the champtonship class.
*He played billiards well and as a crosscountry rider he was not to be beaten. He could play polo, too, as well as the best, and when golf became the game, he soon

learned it well enough to win prizes in that line, too. "Of course, he always had professionals to teach him and he had time and money enough to do whatever was needed to make him an expert. Possibly for that reason he was not liked by everybody. It

is certain that he was never a popular winner. *One night at the class of a billiard tournament held in this room, the championship lay between him nd a member of

another club. *The all-around champion made a couple of flukes and when the turn of the other player came, it looked as if he were certa n

"He was nervous and everybody in the room was intensely interested in the match, so one could have heard a pin drop in the

"The player finally got into position to make the shot that was probably to win the game for him. He had drawn back his cue and in a second the shot would have been made.

"Just then the all-around champion, who was standing not far from the table with his cue in his hand, let it fall to the floor with a crash. Everybody in the room started including the player, who played and missed his shot. It was interesting to see the looks on the faces of the men in that room.

"Excuse me, excuse me, said the champion. 'I would not have had that happen for the world! How could I have been

pion. 'I would not have had that he for the world! How could I have

so awkward.

That explanation was made with an air of the greatest sincerity and there was even a suggestion that the shot be tried again. But this was a championship game and that was not to be thought of.

The explanation of the champion had explained nothing. There was a bitter hostility in the mind of every man who had seen what had happened. There was also a whispered expression of opinion not

also a whispered expression of opinion not favorable to his sportsmanship. "It was then the champion's turn to play

"It was then the champion's turn to play. He stepped to the table and got into place to take the shot that would give him the game unless he missed it and there seemed little chance of that accident. But a fluke would give the other man another chance.

"The champion had his cue in place and was to shoot in a minute. He drew the cue back to make the shot. As he did so a small table holding two glasses and a bottle suddenly fell to the floor with a crash.

crash *The champion played and make a fluke. The champion played and make a fluke. Then he suddenly turned with an expression of ill humor toward the direction in which the table had fallen. He said nothing, but his look was eloquent.

"Excuse me, excuse me, said the man seated nearest the fallen table—he had struck it with his foot. 'I would not have had that happen for the world. How could I have been so awkward.'

"It happened that this man belonged

It happened that this man belonged to the club that the champion was repre-

nting and not to ours.
Everybody understood what the acci-

Everybody understood what the acci-dent had meant and there was a current of sympathy with the man who caused it. The next play gave the championship to the player who would have had it before if he had not been rattled by the dropping of the cue just as he was about to make a shot. The announcement of the victory was The announcement of the victory was greeted with cheers for the first time that I ever knew a player to be applauded here when he did not belong to another club. It is not usually considered good form to applaud the victors when they belong to the home club. But that rule was overlooked that night.

Indians Eating a 120-Foot Whale.

From the San Francisco Chronicle.

Tacoma, June 10.—The Neah Bay, Makah and Challam Indian tribes are holding at Neah Bay the greatest whale batbecue of recent years. Studey the tug Tyee ran across a whale in the ocean The whale was dead, and had apparently been struck by a lumber schooner. On her return the Tyee hitched a line to the leviathan and towed it inside tape Flattery. The Neah Bay indians espied the whale ten miles off and sent several cance loads of braves out to negotiate its purchase from Cant. Rollong. He let them have it for \$30. The whale was brought in close to the beach, and from there the Indians succeeded in dragging their prize out of the reach of high tides. From the tip of its nose to the end of its tail the whale measured exactly 120 test, and was promounced by Capt. Bollong to be the largest specimen he had ever seen. The harbeone started last night and will continue for a week. From the San Francisco Chronicle

Every Home is Bettered Intellectually In this town it was clear sailing for the giant all along the route except at just one point, where two old trees with low-hanging branches made the street imbetter papers are published.—Ads.



FITCHED INTO HIM." the meshes in the waver wire of the cage some, way and was choked to death. I got another dove, and it was as near like the dead one as two peas could possibly be.

The snake was asleep

"SHE TURNED AROUND AND

The snake was asleep when I put his new com-panion in the cage. He woke up some time after-ward. He had scarcely turned his eyes on the ne dove when he sprang at it like a streak of lightning, and made his supper of

turned around and pitched into him so that she drove him into his corner. "I was afraid she'd kill

Bustration by the seedy Man Who Knew Things, and a Celebration Thereof.

The bull pup that was going away to the suntry with the young man in the checked it and the irascible little fox terrier that vas taking the nice-looking young woman n the vellow silk dust cloak to the seashore ad disagreed in the ferryhouse and were angled up in a whirling cloud of dust and

"THE SIGHT HE SAW WAS STARTLING.

nan, the box, and sunburned Jimmy got

BULL PUP HAS A TENDER SPOT.

الماعم

The check-suited young man was making wild but ineffectual attempts to throttle his own pet, and the nice-looking young woman with hands uplifted was wailing for a policeman to come and club the brute who was killing "dear Foxy." The other women passengers were fleeing, and the men were suggesting in turn snuff, pepper. pail of water and other things equally unavailable at the moment to break the bull pup's hold.

From somewhere there appeared a square-jawed, seedy-looking person, chewing a straw, and he took command of the situation. With a sweep of one arm he moved aside the check-suited young man, and with a swift grab with the other hand seized the bulldog's collar and tucked him head downward under the other arm.

The fox terrier, loudly proclaiming that he had had enough, hung in the air, wildly clawing at the seedy man's legs. Not a and came from the bull, and not a muscle of his jaw relaxed.

The seedy man seized his tail. Then with a smothered yelp the bull pup opened The terrier fell, gathered himself together and fled to the shelter of his mistress's skirts. The bulldog, turning an inquiring eye apparently more in sorrow than in anger upon the seedy man, was hauled away by his owner to cool off, and he who

had stopped the fight, followed by the admiring glances of the crowd, returned admiring giances of the crowd, returned to the cab stand.

There a snub-nosed youth with an inquisitive air accosted him.

"Say," said the snub-nosed youth, "that's a new trick on me, an' it's neat. How d'yer pull it off?"

pull it off?"
Dry work talkin', remarked the seedy man, with an eye on the thirst-quenching establishment on the corner.
"Sure," responded the inquisitor. "Have

and made his supper off of it.

"As to how long a thing will live after being struck by a rattlesnake there is "Ever go skatin'?" asked the seedy man "Ever go skatin'?" asked the seedy man arrange it trelevance.

by a rattlesnake there is no telling. I have known a rat to die within six minutes after that snake of mine struck it. I have known others to live twenty-four hours.

"I turned a little bantam hen into that snake's cage case, and when he struck her it made her mad. She turned around and pitched." "Well," continued the seedy man, "there experience, too.
"Well," contin "Well," continued the seedy man, "there you are. It's all a matter o' medical knowl-